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Comments From Nation's Capital

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By MAURICE G. BOEHL

WASHINGTON, Oct. 8—Secretary of State Dulles at his last press conference seemed to take an optimistic view of the tensions in the Near East between Israel and the Arab states.

State Department trouble shooter George Allen had just urged Egypt's Premier Nasser to cancel his arms purchasing agreement with Communist Czechoslovakia.

When asked about the success of the Allen mission, Dulles evaded by saying Allen had given Nasser a better insight into the United States' position and that Nas-

ser had given Allen a better insight into the Egyptian position. Asked again, Dulles admitted he had no reason to believe Egypt would not carry through with the Czech agreement but hastily added the terms of the agreement—what arms Egypt is purchasing—are not yet known. He implied this was still to be arranged.

The Secretary read a statement in which he reiterated his observation of last August that the Arab countries were independent governments and free to do whatever they wished in the matter. He then added, "It is difficult to be

critical of countries, which, feeling themselves endangered, seek the arms which they sincerely believe they need for defense. On the other hand, I doubt very much that, under the conditions which prevail in the area, it is possible for any country to get security through an arms race. Also it is not easy or pleasant to speculate on the probable motives of the Soviet bloc leaders."

Several reporters attending the press conference received the impression that the current arms deal between Egypt and Czechoslovakia did not deeply concern Dulles for possibly one of four reasons:

1. He had received assurances that Egypt was not buying heavy weapons in quantity—or at least not enough to start an attack.

2. The Secretary is rather sure this is Egypt's one and only order from the Czechs.

3. He feels his warning to Molotov that "from the standpoint of U. S. relations with the Soviet Union, such a delivery of arms would not contribute to relaxing tensions" will bear fruit in light of the current Russian attitude.

4. He has hopes his proposal of a security guarantee sponsored by the United Nations will be accepted, although little if any progress in that direction has been made.

At another stage of his press conference, Dulles hinted that things are not considered critical in the Near East at this time.

Commenting on President Eisenhower's illness, Dulles said he had every reason to anticipate that he would be able to talk with the President on any matters which might become urgent in the field of foreign affairs. But he emphasized that so far no emergency has developed in that field and there has been no cause for alarm.

On the same day Secretary of State John Foster Dulles held his press conference, his brother, Central Intelligence Director Allen W. Dulles, gave his opinion on why Communist Czechoslovakia was willing to sell arms to a country not within the Soviet orbit.

CIA Director Dulles said he "should not be at all surprised if we soon heard that Russia is trying to sell obsolescent tanks, planes and small arms to countries in the Western Hemisphere."

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This "somewhat recent development" in the Communist "program of sowing international discord" was described by brother Dulles as "the Kremlin's new Trojan Horse." He added it was a program which would look "quite attractive" to many countries trying "to build up their military establishments."

He spoke of great quantities of obsolete Communist tanks and aircraft which are being replaced by advanced models. Most of these he said, are going to Red China and Indo-China but there "remain ample for other parts of the world and we now hear of advanced negotiations with several countries of the Middle East."

The CIA Director didn't identify the countries of the Western Hemisphere which may be approached but did refer to Guatemala, which received a shipment of arms from Czechoslovakia shortly before its Red-tinged regime was overthrown as a "premature start."

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